

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8, 10, 13-18, 20, 22, 25-30, 32, 34, 37-42, 44, and 46 under 35 USC 102 (b) as being anticipated by Matthews, III et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,724,492 (hereinafter referred to as "Matthews").

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Independent claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 of the present application include limitations not disclosed or taught by Matthews. As a result, independent claims 1, 13, 25, and 37 are not anticipated by Matthews.

In particular, the claims include limitations of generating a plurality of planes positioned in said polyhedron, said planes being approximately parallel. Matthews does not teach such a limitation. Rather, Matthews teaches a three dimensional singular channel manager which is shown rotating ("a multi-sided object rotating from along its major axis to reveal another panel") with two panels displayed on the channel manager which are not parallel (Fig. 7, Col. 15, lines 39-41). As such, Matthews does not display planes positioned in a polyhedron, said planes being approximately parallel. For this reason, Matthews does not anticipate the claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 7, 9, 19, 21, 31, 33, 43, and 45 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews and Nakano et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,043, 818 (hereinafter referred to as “Nakano”).

Examiner rejected claims 11, 12, 23, 24, 35, 36, 47, and 48 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matthews and Nakano and further in view of Williams et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,977,964 (hereinafter referred to as “Williams”).

The remaining claims depend from one of the foregoing independent claims discussed above. Therefore the remaining claims include the novel claim limitations discussed above and are therefore not anticipated by Matthews and are patentable over Matthews, Nakano, and Williams.

CONCLUSION


Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300, x237.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT A

A marked-up version of the amended claims is as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for displaying an Electronic Programming Guide (EPG) comprising:
 - generating a three dimensional virtual mesh polyhedron ;
 - generating a plurality of planes positioned in said polyhedron, said planes being approximately parallel, said polyhedron having a first object on a first plane and a second object on a second plane, said objects providing interactive surfaces.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said polyhedron is displayed with an isometric view.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said EPG is generated exclusive of three dimensional graphics circuitry.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein selection of one of said objects will select a program provided on a certain channel at a certain time.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said objects are independent of said polyhedron.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein said objects represent certain television program on a certain channel at a certain time.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said polyhedron is a cube.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said planes are parallel.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein said planes correspond to levels of preference.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein one of said objects a pictogram.
11. The method of claim 7, wherein said cube further comprises three axes.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein said axes correspond to time, channel, and user preference.
13. (Amended) An Electronic Program Guide (EPG) comprising:
 - a three dimensional virtual mesh polyhedron comprising a plurality of planes, said planes being approximately parallel; and
 - said polyhedron having a first object on a first plane and a second object on a second plane, and said objects providing interactive surfaces.
14. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said polyhedron is displayed with an isometric view.
15. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said EPG is displayed exclusive of three dimensional graphics circuitry.
16. The EPG of claim 13, wherein the selection of one of said objects will select a program provided on a certain channel at a certain time.
17. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said objects are independent of said polyhedron.

18. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said objects represent a certain television program on a certain channel at a certain time.
19. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said polyhedron is a cube.
20. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said planes are parallel.
21. The EPG of claim 13, wherein said planes correspond to levels of preference.
22. The EPG of claim 13, wherein one of said objects is a pictogram
23. The EPG of claim 19, wherein said cube further comprises three axes.
24. The EPG of claim 23, wherein said axes correspond to time, channel, and user preference.
25. (Amended) A system for displaying an Electronic Program Guide (EPG) comprising:
a memory; and
a first unit to generate a three dimensional virtual polyhedron; and
said first unit to further display a plurality of planes positioned in said polyhedron, said planes being approximately parallel, said polyhedron having a first object on a first plane and a second object on a second plane, and said objects providing interactive surface.
26. The system of claim 25, wherein said polyhedron is displayed with an isometric view.

27. The system of claim 25, wherein said EPG is displayed exclusive of three dimensional graphics circuitry
28. The system of claim 25 wherein the selection of one of said objects will select a program provided on a certain channel at a certain time.
29. The system of claim 25, wherein said objects are independent of said polyhedron.
30. The system of claim 25, wherein said objects represent a certain television program on a certain channel at a certain time.
31. The system of claim 25, wherein said polyhedron is a cube.
32. The system of claim 25, wherein said planes are parallel.
33. The system of claim 25, wherein said planes correspond to levels of preference.
34. The system of claim 25, wherein one of said objects is a pictogram.
35. The system of claim 31, wherein said cube further comprises three axes.
36. The system of claim 35, wherein said axes correspond to time, channel, and user preference.
37. (Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions which are executable by a processor, and which, when

executed by the processor, cause the system to perform a method for displaying an Electronic Programming Guide (EPG) comprising:

generating a three dimensional virtual mesh polyhedron; and
generating a plurality of planes positioned in said polyhedron, said planes being approximately parallel, said polyhedron having a first object on a first plane and a second object on a second plane, said objects providing interactive surfaces.

38. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said polyhedron is displayed with an isometric view.

39. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said EPG is displayed exclusive of three dimensional graphics circuitry.

40. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein the selection of one of said objects will select a program provided on a certain channel at a certain time.

41. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said objects are independent of said polyhedron.

42. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said objects represent a certain television program on a certain channel at a certain time.

43. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said polyhedron is a cube.

44. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said planes are parallel.

45. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein said planes correspond to levels of preference.
46. The machine readable medium of claim 37, wherein one of said objects is a pictogram.
47. The machine readable medium of claim 43, wherein said cube further comprises three axes.
48. The machine readable medium of claim 47, wherein said axes correspond to time, channel, and user preference.